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- Package of two potholders

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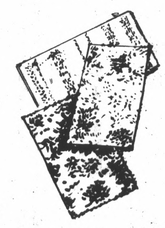
Choose from 10 ct. large trash bags, 15 ct. trash bags or 20 ct. tall kitchen bags.



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HOURS: MON.-THURS. 9 A.M.-7 P.M.; FRIDAY: 9 A.M.-9 P.M.; SAT.: 9 A.M.-8 P.M.; SUN. 1 P.M.-6 P.M.

TIMES-VIRG

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

VOLUME 89-NUMBER 23 | APPOMATTOX, (VA.)-TIMES-VIRGINIAN-JUNE 5, 1980 | ONE SECTION-18 PAGES | SINGLE COPY PRICE - 20¢

For sewer project

Town to seek addendum

By BILL SHERROD

The appomattox Mayor and Council voted Monday night to write an addendum to its sewer grant plan which will allow it to construct a 400,000-gallon-per-day plant with an outfall in Falling River.

The system would cost roughly $1.6 million, according to consultants May-Hines and Associates, Inc.

The proposed system would be eligible for 75 percent funding from the federal government, according to the consultants.

Estimated user charges would be based on a percentage of water use, which would in turn be set by the Mayor and Council. The charge to each sewer customer would be based solely on the amount of water that customer used during a month, just as the current billing is done, according to Mayor Ronnie Spiggle.

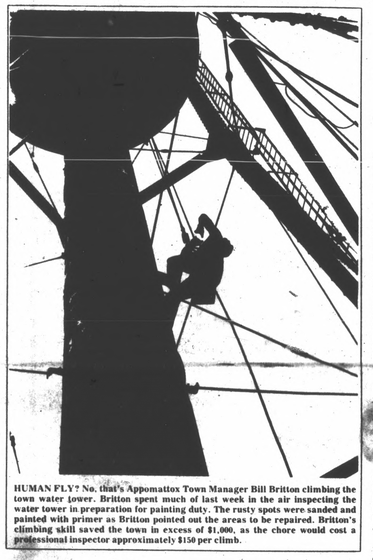
Spiggle noted that this would result in equitable division of cost with commercial sewer customers paying their fair share, and cause very little increase in sewer bills to people within the town who are on fixed incomes.

Though the site for the aerated lagoon plant has not been secured, a prime candidate currently under negotiation is a tract of Continetal Can land south of town.

The outfall line would enter Falling River downstream from where it does with the current sewer system, and as a result, effluent purity standards will not be as high.

In addition, the proposed system will provide for growth within the town and can be expanded as needed in later years.

The addendum, which will cost the town a maximum of $2,500, must be completed and submitted to the federal Environmental Protection Agency by July 1.



HUMAN FLY? No, that's Appomattox Town Manager Bill Britton climbing the town water tower. Britton spent much of last week in the air inspecting the water tower in preparation for painting duty. The rusty spots were sanded and painted with primer as Britton pointed out the areas to be repaired. Britton's climbing skill saved the town in excess of $1,000, as the chore would cost a professional inspector approximately $150 per climb.

Armstrong cutback announced

Armstrong Furniture's Appomattox plant announced last week that 72 persons would be laid off due to the recessionary trend in the nation's economy.

Susan Bailey, personnel manager at the Appomattox plant, said the layoff will involve 71 production workers and one maintenance employee. The plant currently employees 732 in production and maintenance, excluding salaried personnel.

The cutback will be effective June 30, with the last day of work for those affected June 27, according to Bailey.

Bailey said of the work-force reduction, "At this point, the cutback is for an indefinite period of time." She noted that the affected workers have recall rights for 12 months. Meanwhile, the plant is making "every effort" to help those affected by the layoff to locate new employment.

Bailey said a representative from the state unemployment agency has been contacted and will be on hand at the Appomattox plant to assist in filing for unemployment compensation. In additon, a state employment agency representative has been contacted and is working on placing those workers who are losing their jobs.

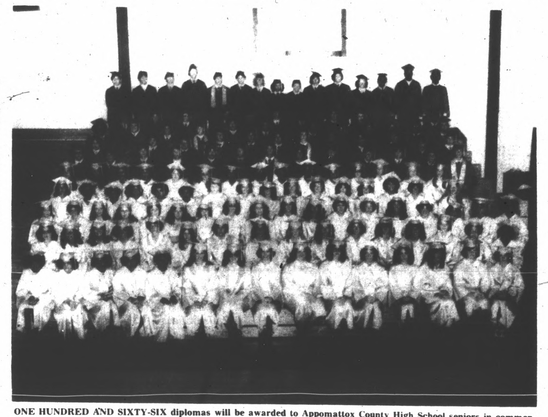
Bailey said of the move, "We (Armstrong) are not down and gloomy about the future. We have a very successful market, and in fact we have a bigger share of the market than ever before. But the market itself has contracted because of the recession."

She continued, "We're very optimistic that when the country comes out of the recession we'll be in a better position in our market than ever before...Ours is a discretionary product. People won't buy furniture when they're worrying about utility bills, groceries, rent, and other necessities."

Bailey noted that the company enacted a cost-reduction and cost efficiency program about the middle of last year. The program has helped the Appomattox plant, according to Bailey, and as a result "we are in a better position, comparatively, than other similar companies."

The plant, in its sixth year of operation in Appomattox, last year laid off 69 employees, according to Bailey.

However, "we are not at the present time anticipating further reductions in the work force here," Bailey said.



ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIX diplomas will be awarded to Appomattox County High School seniors in commencement exercises at the football stadium, Appomattox Middle School, this Friday night. The ceremonies will begin at 8 p.m. (Photo by Shearer R. Robertson).

Graduation Friday night

One hundred sixty-six students will participate in Commencement Exercises for the 1980 graduating seniors at Appomattox County High School on Friday evening, June 6, 1980, at 8 p.m., at the Appomattox Middle School stadium. In case of inclement weather, exercises will be held in the auditorium at Appomattox County High School.

Baccalaureate services were held on Sunday evening, June 1, at 8 p.m. in the Appomattox County High School auditorium. The speaker was Rev. William Trimyer, pastor of Elon Baptist Church, Pamplin.

Mr. Donald L. Armentrout, principal of Appomattox County High School, Mr. John McLean, Assistant principal, and Mr. Henry Battle, a class sponsor, will award the diplomas to the graduating seniors.

Class speakers will be Dale Shannon Garrett, Valedictorian, and Laurie Hunter McLean and Pamela Ellen Guill, Co-Salutatorians. Philip Edward Paulette, class president, will give the welcome and introduce the speakers.

Mr. Lloyd G. Walton, Superintendent of Appomattox County Public Schools, will be presented by Mr. Donald L. Armentrout, principal.

Class officers are Philip Edward Paulette, president; Ernie Chenault, vice-president; Lisa Moore, secretary; David Caldwell, treasurer; Kim Hipps, reporter; and Wanda Forest, chaplain.

Motto for the Class of 1980 is "To Succeed one must make an attempt". Class colors are blue and grey. Class sponsors are Mrs. Harriette Beasley, Mr. Henry Battle, Mr. John McLean, and Mr. Donald Armentrout.

Names of the members of the graduating class are listed on the "Community page" in this issue of the **Times-Virginian**.

Burger King opens here

Burger King joined the growing list of fine Appomattox eateries Sunday, as the new restaurant opened its doors to the public at 11 a.m.

This latest local restaurant, located on Route 460 across from the Traveler's Inn, is planning a grand opening within 30 to 45 days, according to Bob Mongold, who with Randy Hyde and Catherine Hamlett share managerial duties at the restaurant.

Appomattox residents watched with interest last week as final touches were put to the new's built facility. Of particular interest were landscaping procedures, particularly the sod, or "instant lawn," as some locals referred to it, unrolled on the grounds just prior to the restaurant's opening.

Jim Farrell, of Glick-Farrell Mecouch, Inc., who in cooperation with the local firm Superior Trees did the landscaping, said a total of 19,000 square feet of sod was laid on the grounds. He said the total landscaping bill for the new restaurant was $35,000.

Included in this is $2,500 for a "Pendula Robusca," a tree which according to Farrell is more than 120 years old. The tree is planted just in

[Continued on page 14]

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

Welcome to June and we are off to a good start. The school graduation and promotion activities have kept lots of people busy. Now we'll put theory into practice, test skill against production and challenge oncoming opportunities.

June is a wonderful month. The word rhymes with moon and tune and I recall a song that went ... "Just give me a June night, the moonlight and you." On the practical side, some students have already found jobs and others are setting up plans for college this fall.

* * *

Our neighboring town of Altavista has a annual event known as "Uncle Billy's Day." The program includes athletic events and this year the distance running competition was won by Richard Ferguson, of Appomattox, Son of Mr. and Mrs. Murrell Ferguson. Richard graudated last week at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, and will return there this summer to help in the sports program and this fall will enter University of Virginia for graduate study. There were several others from Appomattox in the Altavista program. Richard's win was over a distance of 6.2 miles.

* * *

Several ACHS girls were recognized as stars in the Seminole softball league. Annette Carter of ACHS was acclaimed as top player in the league.

* * *

I cut out a sports item about a young French tennis player destined for stardom. Hard to ignore a guy named Yannick Noah.

* * *

Involvement is a big word in our times. On all sides, people are urged to become "involved." Not just "join" but serve on committees, seek every opportunity to serve, become an officer. I submit that Appomattox is a great town because it offers so many opportunities to become involved. Our churches offer countless opportunities for service. So do our civic clubs. Social activities are numerous. Recreational programs abound. Business involvement challenges every worker. You do not have to stay on the sidelines in Appomattox. You can be an active participant. I have often noted how quickly newcomers become involved in some phase of local work. Many share the same hobbies. Joining, and then participating, opens new doors and often enriches your life. Years ago I picked up a poem on the back of the menu at Rod's Steak House, Williams, Arizona. About the advantages of living in a "small town." Have lost the poem, but not the theme. We still shake hands when we meet and ask about the family. We care when there are illnesses and disappointments. Competition yes, but in a pinch it is all for one and one for all. I like Appomattox. If I live in some other town, as indeed I have, I'd like that too. It is the American way.

* * *

Nothing newsworthy to report about my "garden." Yet. I discouraged honeysuckle most of Saturday and got a puffed eye when set upon by a brigade of gnats. May get some goggles. There was a severe electrical storm east of us Saturday. Ah yes, the Town of Urbanna is celebrating its Tricentennial. Thanks for reading and may June be YOUR month. Seeya around.

California, here he comes

By BILL SHERROD

Some folks like to work in gardens, some like to fish. Larry Hoff, a 54-year-old Miami Beach, Fla. resident, likes to ride his bicycle.

That in itself may not seem strange, but the distances Hoff travels on his two-wheeler are, to say the least, extraordinary.

He was in Appomattox last Wednesday, one of many stops he will make on his 6,500-mile journey from Miami Beach to Los Angeles, California.

"It's just a hobby I adopted," Hoff says of the lenghty bicycle junkets. This summer's trip from Florida to California will not be his first. In 1978 he made the trip and came back, a total distance of 13,138 miles.

Hoff, who was resting at the Traveler's Inn when interviewed, has been a serious bicycle enthusiast for about four years. A horse groomsman by vocation, he got his first bicycle when his job was moved from a location near his home to one further out, not within feasible walking range.

"I didn't own a car, and I never have," he says. "I don't even know how to drive one. So, I decided to get a bicycle, and bought a cheap three-speed bike at a department store."

Hoff soon fell in love with his new mode of transportation. However, he found that as he began to put more and more mileage on the bike, "it began to slowly disintegrate." So he bought a new 10-speed Schwinn.

He began to make longer journeys, mostly day trips. Then he met a girl at the track where he was working. She introduced him to cross-country bike touring.

"I was intrigued by the photos and stories of the Rocky Mountains, the midwest, and the other parts of the nation she had seen," says Hoff.

"In 1977, Hoff made his first extended trip: a five-day ride from Miami to Cape Canaveral and back, covering about 500 miles.

A year later he traded in his 10-speed for a $900, 18-speed bike, and set out for California. The trip, 6,800 miles total, took him 102 days. The return trip took 116 days.

Hoff says he averages about 60 miles a day, and spends the night either at a motel or camping. He carries all the essentials for bike touring - spare clothing, toilet kit, tent, sleeping bag, radio, spare parts, tools and camera, in two "panniers," packs like saddlebags that hang on either side of the bike.

For cash, he carries travelers checks to discourage would-be highway thieves. "Most of the people I meet on the road are very nice," he says. Sometimes you get a bad apple, but in general people are interested in the tour and very hospitable."

As an example, Hoff recalls an incident which occured on his first trip to California. He was in a campground in Illinois, and noticed a motorcycle gang approaching. "Well, this is where the trouble starts," he thought as the bikers surrounded his campsite. But to his surprise, the bikers expressed only a profound interest in his trip, and a sincere desire to help. "They insisted on giving me part of a bucket of fried chicken they had just bought, because they figured it would take me too long to pedal out to where the restaurants were," he says.

Hoff, who stayed at the Traveler's Inn here during his last trip to California, says Appomattox appeals to him as a "particularly lovely town," like most of those he has seen in Southside Virginia.

From Virginia Hoff plans to enter Kentucky, then travel through Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, then north through Wyoming, Montana, and Oregon, and then down into California.

He expects to arrive in Los Angeles by Sept. 1. "I have a job waiting for me there," he notes. He will be working for Charlie Whittington, a horse trainer of considerable renown among equestrians.

And then, after enough money is saved up, it will be back on the road to Miami.

LARRY HOFF, a Miami Beach, Fla., resident, was in Appomattox last week, one of many stops he will make on his 6,500-mile bicycle trip from Miami to Los Angeles, California.